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In its entirety the volume is a good introduction to the subject, but the reader cannot form from it a fair judgment on the advisability of colonial effort until he shall have also read something of the methods of colonial administration employed by the English and the French. The author might well meet this objection by supplementing his present work with another volume treating of the undertakings of these peoples, but he would then practically be duplicating that which already exists.

HENRY C. MORRIS.

*The Government of European Cities.* By WILLIAM BENNETT MUNRO.  
(New York: The Macmillan Company. 1909 Pp. ix, 409.)

Professor Munro has written a clear and accurate account of the structure and operation of municipal government in France, Prussia and England. His work is not only a description of the municipal organization, but also a study of the practical operation of government. The book is primarily a study in administration, and does not profess to consider fully the subject of municipal functions; it is a study of the broad features of municipal organization and administration, with useful and interesting comparisons of conditions in the three countries studied, and of these countries with the United States. Emphasis has been placed upon the relations of municipal authorities with the central government and the discussion of this subject is especially satisfactory. The author purposely leaves aside any discussion of the extent to which foreign cities have assumed the ownership or operation of public utilities, and he discusses only incidentally the municipal financial systems. He treats primarily the structure of government and the general methods of conducting administrative work, and in this field he has written a scholarly and useful work.

Professor Munro's book fills a distinct space in the literature of municipal government, for little was before available in English of the material which he has presented. Mr. Albert Shaw's works attempted little in the way of discussing the general administrative organization. The author's discussions are fuller and more satisfactory than those in Ashley's *Local and Central Government*, and his accounts of English and French city governments are more satisfactory than those in the *Schriften des Vereins für Social-politik* (vol. 123).

Especial attention should be called to the author's full citation of

authorities. Many subjects are not discussed as fully as would have been desired, and some important matters are merely mentioned, but in every case there are full references to works from which further information may be obtained. A separate chapter of the book under review is devoted to an extensive critical bibliography of municipal government in the three countries under discussion. One misses from this bibliography Maurice Block's *Dictionnaire de l'administration française* (5th ed., 2 vols., Paris, 1905), and G. H. Blunden's *Local Taxation and Finance* (London, 1895).

On the whole, Professor Munro's work is so well done that there is little room for criticism. In the account of Prussian municipal government it would be of interest to have a discussion of the "Gemeinde," and in the account of English city government a fuller treatment of "urban districts" would have been of value. At times the discussion is not elementary enough for the reader who does not already possess some little knowledge of municipal government.

W. F. DODD.

*The Government of American Cities.* By HORACE E. DEMING. (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1909. Pp. ix, 323.)

Mr. Horace E. Deming is well known to students of municipal government as an active worker in this field, and as the chairman of the committee which drafted the *Municipal Program* adopted by the National Municipal League in 1899. Since its publication the *Municipal Program* has been to a large extent the program advocated by those interested in municipal progress, and it has had an important influence upon municipal development. What Mr. Deming has now done is, in reality, to sum up the advances made within the past ten years, to state clearly the arguments in favor of the plans proposed by the *Municipal Program*, and to reprint the program (which has been out of print for some time), together with a clear analysis of its provisions. His work cannot therefore be said to contain much that is new to students of municipal affairs, but it should perform an important service in educating the public with reference to proposed reforms in this field.

The fundamental point in Mr. Deming's argument, that for granting to cities home rule with reference to their local affairs, is clearly and forcibly put, but it would seem that the author minimizes the diffi-